(b) if so, from which country these were imported and what was their cost and foreign exchange component;

(c) how many cancer patients were treated with the equipment;

(d) what observations were made by Internal Audit and whether they were considered by the appropriate authority; if so ,what action was taken thereon;

(e) which authority was responsible for this import and whether Government are aware of several allegations against him; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN): (a) For treatment of Cancer patients at the Central Hospital, Kalla, Asansol; one Deep-therapy X-ray machine alongwith a Portable X-ray Dosemeter was imported in February, 1985.

(b) The X-ray machine was imported from Holland and the the Dose Meter from U.K., at a total cost of Rs. 12,24,818/-. The purchase order specified foreign exchange component as follows: HFL (Dutch Currency) 2,52,627 and £ 2046.

(c) Six patients have been treated so far.

(d) The internal audit which gave its observations on 15-7-1986 made the following points:

(i) The purchase was not preceded by proper planning of all the civil works in order to ensure prompt installation of the machinery an arrival so that commissioning could be achieved with in the warranty period.

(ii) The delay in installation of the machine had resulted in the purpose for which the machine had been procured not being realised for an avoidably long period. They wanted that the installation of the machine should be expedited and the person incharge should be made accountable for the delay and any defects which may have developed in the machine on account of long storage and non-commissioning within the warranty period.

The machine was installed in premises which were made in conformity with the safety parameters prescribed by Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC). The installation was done with the assistance of the suppliers' representative M/s. Peico Electronics and Electrical Ltd., New Delhi who did not charge any additional amount. Trial run was held in January, 1990 in the presence of officials from BARC and their clearance was obtained on 25th January, 1990. The machine has been in operation with the requisite personnel from April, 1990.

(e) and (f) The C.B.I. are seized of the matter and their investigations have not yet been completed.

**Overcharged amount recoverable from drug companies**

*170. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total overcharged amount recoverable from the drug companies at the end of the financial year 1989-90 and what was the figure at the end of 1988-89;

(b) since when the recovery of the overcharged amount has been pending;

(c) what are the reasons for the delay in the recovery from the drug companies; and

(d) what corrective steps have been taken by Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Names of the companies against whom liability has been tentatively assessed, amounts so

assessed against each and amounts deposited by the companies upto 1989-90 are given in the Annexure. The position of assessment of liability at the end of 1988-89 and 1989-90 was the same. (*See* Appendix CLIV, Annexure No. 36)

(b) Final recovery from the companies involved in the Supreme Court case is pending from April-May, 1987 when the Supreme Court judgement was received whereas against the remaining companies it is pending from earlier periods also.

(c) and (d) A number of complaints were received against the tentative amounts assessed by the Special Team in the Supreme Court case. The amounts due are therefore being finalised now after due scrutiny. Final recovery can only be made after the recoverable amounts are finalised.

**Taking over of sick units by Government**

@*171. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided not to take over any more sick industrial units; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The general policy of the Government is not to take-over/nationalise sick and non-viable units so that the scarce resources of the country can be deployed productively for setting up viable and efficient new units.

(b) It is seen that the take-over of management has not proved ot be a successful instrument for the revival and rehabilitation of sick units. In view of this, since 1982, no unit has been taken over by the Central Government under the I (D & R) Act, 1951.

@Previously Starred Question 72, transferred from the 4th May, 1990.

*172. [*Transferred to the 22nd May, 1990.*]

**Treatment facilities for the mentally retarded**

*173. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government to increase the treatment facilities for the mentally retarded;

(b) whether there is only one centre for the mentally retarded at Bangalore for the whole of South India; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for ignoring this sector?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) Mental retardation is a permanent condition which cannot be cured by treatment. Mentally retarded persons are to be managed on a long term basis and intervention is helpful in the areas of self-help, education and vocational training.

The Ministry of Welfare have informed that under the scheme of assistance to voluntary organisations for disabled persons, 90 per cent of grant-in-aid is sanctioned to voluntary organisations working in the area of mental retardation, for programmes of detection, early intervention, special education and vocatinal training.

(b) No, Sir. In South India, the voluntary organisations which have been supported by the Ministry of Welfare are as under:—

1. Thakur Hariprasad Institute of Rehabilitation for Mentally Handicapped Children Hyderabad.

2. Hyderabad Special School for Children in Need of Special Care, Secunderabad.

3. Rotary Club, Shimoga (Karnataka).